

Remarks/ Arguments

Upon entry of the foregoing amendments, Claims 17, 18, 20 to 22, 25, 28, 29, 32, 35 to 38, 40 to 42, and 45 to 53 will be pending in this patent application. Claims 17 and 37 have been amended, without prejudice. Claims 23 and 43 have been canceled without prejudice.

The Action includes rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102. In view of the following remarks, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are requested respectfully.

Discussion of the Rejections Under 35 U.S.C § 102

Claims 17, 18, 20 to 25, 28, 29, 32, 35 to 38, 40 to 43, and 45 to 53 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,744,834 to Haq et al. ("Haq"). Applicants submit respectfully that, in view of the foregoing amendments cancelling structure VI, the rejection is now moot.

Claims 17, 18, 20 to 25, 28, 29, 32, 35 to 38, 40 to 43, and 45 to 53 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. patent application Publication No. 2002/0000239 to Sachdev et al. ("Sachdev").¹ Applicants submit respectfully that, in view of the foregoing amendments cancelling structure VI, the rejection is now moot.

Claims 17, 18, 20 to 25, 28, 29, 32, 35 to 38, 40 to 43, and 45 to 53 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. patent application Publication No. 2004/0074519 to Moore et al. ("Moore").² Applicants submit respectfully that, in view of the foregoing amendments cancelling structure VI, the rejection is now moot.

¹ Applicants disagree respectfully that Sachdev has been properly characterized as prior art under 35 U.S.C. 102(b).

² Applicants disagree respectfully that Moore has been properly characterized as prior art under 35 U.S.C. 102(b).

Accordingly, for at least the above-identified reasons, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102 are requested respectfully.

Conclusion

Applicants believe that the foregoing constitutes a complete and full response to the Action of record. Applicants respectfully submit that this application is now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, an indication of allowability and an early Notice of Allowance are respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee required and any additional fees that may be needed to Deposit Account No. 01-0493 in the name of Air Products and Chemicals, Inc.

Respectfully submitted,

/Joseph D. Rossi/

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